

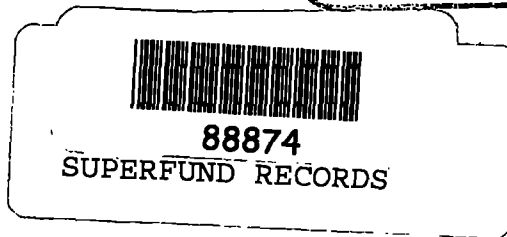
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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1986



EPA REGION VII

By: <u>Martha C. Rose</u>
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PCB materials found

By Barbara Musfeldt

The Star's energy/environment writer

Four truckloads of PCB-contaminated materials have been discovered in a lot in the Hospital Hill area of Kansas City by federal environmental officials, who want the material moved.

The tainted material, mostly in old equipment, is on four flatbed trailers in a lot near American Steel Works, a steel fabrication firm at 2459 Charlotte St., according to David Tripp, regional counsel for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. He said the trailers have recently been covered with tarps.

"We don't think it poses any immediate threat," he said. "But over time the PCBs could leak and contaminate the soil and be washed off the site."

EPA records indicate the president and chief executive officer of American Steel Works Inc. is Walter C. Carolan Jr., who is president and majority owner of Martha C. Rose Chemicals Co. Inc. The chemical company once handled polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) wastes at a plant in Holden, Mo.

The EPA has filed a complaint with an administrative

law judge against American Steel, Rose Chemical, Mr. Carolan and several employees, ordering them to dispose or decontaminate the material.

In the complaint, the agency alleges that Rose officials moved some of the equipment used at the Holden plant to the American Steel site, Mr. Tripp said. The agency also claims that some of the Rose equipment was also taken to several locations, mainly farms in the Holden area.

The Holden plant closed early this summer. Federal environmental officials found more than 15 million pounds of PCB wastes at the plant. Rose officials have said they do not have the money to clean up the wastes. Cleanup costs have been estimated at \$20 million.

American Steel and Rose officials have not indicated any "willingness" to take care of the material, Mr. Tripp said. He said the agency is considering cleaning up the material and later attempting to bill the firms and Mr. Carolan for those costs.

Mr. Carolan and American Steel officials could not be reached for comment.